

SENATE BILL 526

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2004 Regular Session
4r1421
CF 4r2612

By: **Senators Kelley, Britt, Conway, Exum, Gladden, Grosfeld, Kittleman,
Lawlah, and Pinsky**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2004

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education - Distressed Schools - Performance Incentive Grants**

3 FOR the purpose of repealing certain provisions relating to teacher incentive grants;
4 reallocating certain teacher incentive grants to provide State grants to certain
5 distressed schools; requiring the Governor to include certain funds in the annual
6 State budget; requiring the State Department of Education to make a certain
7 determination; defining certain terms; and generally relating to grants for
8 certain distressed schools.

9 BY repealing
10 Article - Education
11 Section 6-306
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2001 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

14 BY adding to
15 Article - Education
16 Section 6-306
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2001 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

19 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
20 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

21 **Article - Education**

22 [6-306.

23 (a) In this section, "county grant for national certification" means an annual
24 grant distributed to a teacher certified by the National Board for Professional
25 Teaching Standards established:

26 (1) Outside of the collective bargaining process; or

1 (2) As part of a collective bargaining agreement with the local employee
2 organization.

3 (b) (1) For fiscal year 2000 and each subsequent fiscal year, the Governor
4 shall include in each year's operating budget funding for the stipends and bonuses
5 provided in this subsection.

6 (2) A classroom teacher who holds a standard professional certificate or
7 an advanced professional certificate who is employed by a county board and who
8 holds a certificate issued by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards
9 shall receive a stipend from the State in an amount equal to the county grant for
10 national certification, up to a maximum of \$2,000 per qualified teacher.

11 (3) (i) An individual who graduates from an accredited institution of
12 higher education with a grade point average of at least 3.5 on a 4.0 scale or its
13 equivalent, becomes employed by a county board, and remains employed as a
14 classroom teacher in the public school system for a minimum of 3 consecutive years
15 shall receive a salary signing bonus of \$1,000.

16 (ii) If the individual leaves employment with the public school
17 system before the end of the 3-year commitment, the individual shall reimburse the
18 State in the amount of \$1,000.

19 (4) A classroom teacher who holds an advanced professional certificate
20 and teaches in a public school identified by the State Board as a reconstitution school,
21 a reconstitution-eligible school, or a challenge school shall receive a stipend from the
22 State in the amount of \$2,000 for each year that the teacher performs satisfactorily in
23 the classroom.

24 (c) An individual who receives a stipend or bonus under subsection (b) of this
25 section may not be deemed an employee of the State.

26 (d) The employer of an individual who receives a stipend or bonus under
27 subsection (b) of this section shall pay the increase in fringe benefit costs associated
28 with the stipend or bonus.

29 (e) The Department shall act as fiscal agent for funds disbursed under this
30 section.]

31 6-306.

32 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
33 INDICATED.

34 (2) "ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS" MEANS THE GOALS FOR STUDENT
35 ACHIEVEMENT IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS ESTABLISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN
36 ACCORDANCE WITH THE NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ACT OF 2001, P. L. 107-201.

1 (3) "ELIGIBLE SCHOOL" MEANS A PUBLIC SCHOOL THAT HAS BEEN
2 IDENTIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENT AS IN NEED OF IMPROVEMENT, CORRECTIVE
3 ACTION, OR RESTRUCTURING.

4 (4) "STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS" MEANS SCHOOLWIDE
5 IMPROVEMENT IN STUDENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT THAT MEETS A STANDARD
6 ESTABLISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION.

7 (B) IT IS THE INTENT OF THIS SECTION TO PROVIDE PERFORMANCE
8 INCENTIVE GRANTS TO ELIGIBLE SCHOOLS.

9 (C) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005 AND EACH SUBSEQUENT FISCAL YEAR, THE
10 GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN EACH YEAR'S OPERATING BUDGET FUNDING FOR
11 GRANTS FOR ELIGIBLE SCHOOLS AS PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION.

12 (D) (1) THE AMOUNT OF THE GRANT FOR AN ELIGIBLE SCHOOL IS \$15,000
13 FOR A SCHOOL YEAR.

14 (2) A GRANT TO AN ELIGIBLE SCHOOL MAY BE RENEWED ANNUALLY SO
15 LONG AS THE SCHOOL MAINTAINS STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS OR
16 UNTIL IT ACHIEVES ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS.

17 (E) EACH SCHOOL YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

18 (1) IDENTIFY EACH ELIGIBLE SCHOOL THAT DEMONSTRATES
19 STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS TOWARD ACHIEVING ADEQUATE YEARLY
20 PROGRESS FOR EACH OF THE 3 PRECEDING SCHOOL YEARS; AND

21 (2) DISTRIBUTE A GRANT TO EACH ELIGIBLE SCHOOL IN ACCORDANCE
22 WITH SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION.

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
24 October 1, 2004.